

From: Chris Holdredge
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 8:04am
Subject: Displeasure with MS proposed settlement

I'm an IT professional writing to my displeasure with the proposed settlement. Been in this business long enough to remember when there were a dozen or more operating systems and hundreds of viable application vendors. Surprisingly, that situation worked quite well, since interchange formats were de-facto standards shared by all. Now you can only expect your work to be usable by others if you use Microsoft's tools, and the latest versions at that, despite the fact that all that ever changes are the number of useless options on the menus, the file formats, and the pricing scheme. Please take serious, concrete action to restore real competition and innovation to the marketplace. Continuing with this slap-on-the-wrist proposal will leave our of our nation's most important industries in the hands of a stagnating, unmotivated, dinosaur.